THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Recruitment of Section Officer (Audit) is entrusted to Staff Selection Commission (SSC) [and not Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)]. For this, the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) has prescribed Graduation as the minimum educational qualifiication and, the minimum and the maximum age for candidates as 18 and 27 years respectively.

(d) and (e) No such proposal in respect of such posts is under consideration

Re-orientation of Indian Bureaucracy

4580. SHRI SAHID SIDDIQUI. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken for the re-orientation of Indian bureaucracy especially the IAS and IPS officers;

(b) whether there have been many reports of higher officers not showing a secular and unbiased outlook on many occasions especially during communal riots, and

(c) what steps are being taken to give more secular outlook to the central services officers and to make the more sensitive towards various social and religious groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a)Orientation and re-orientation of civil servants is a continuous process achieved through intensive induction training and supplemented by periodic mid-career trainings. A set of conduct rules is also in place to guide their actions as civil servants

(b) No case of this nature has been referred to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions so far.

(c) During their training at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy IAS and IPS officers are enabled to develop a secular outlook and sensitivity as regards disadvantaged social groups. The Conduct Rules

emphasise such sensitivity and the annual Performance Appraisal also requires an assessment of these aspects.

Check on Government hiring

4581. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that successive Governments have promised to keep a check on Government hiring by various Ministries and departments;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite any such assurances, the number of people working for Government has increased by another one lakh in this fiscal year alone;

(c) if so, whether Government plan to put in place a stricter check on departmental hiring; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (d) Hiring of employees can be either through a Contractor even directly by the employer by way of temporary/permanent appointment to a post. However, no centralized data with regard to hiring of employees by Ministries/Departments of the Central Government is maintained.

So far as the Contract Labour (regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is concerned, it has been enacted with a view to regulate the employment of Contract Labour in certain establishments and to provide for its abolition in certain circumstances. So far 64 notifications prohibiting employment of Contract Labour in various establishments falling within the Central Sphere in certain category of jobs have been issued. There has been a decline in the number of Contract Labour engaged by licensed Contractors under the Central Sphere during 2003-04.

Prosecution of senior bureaucrats

4582. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: